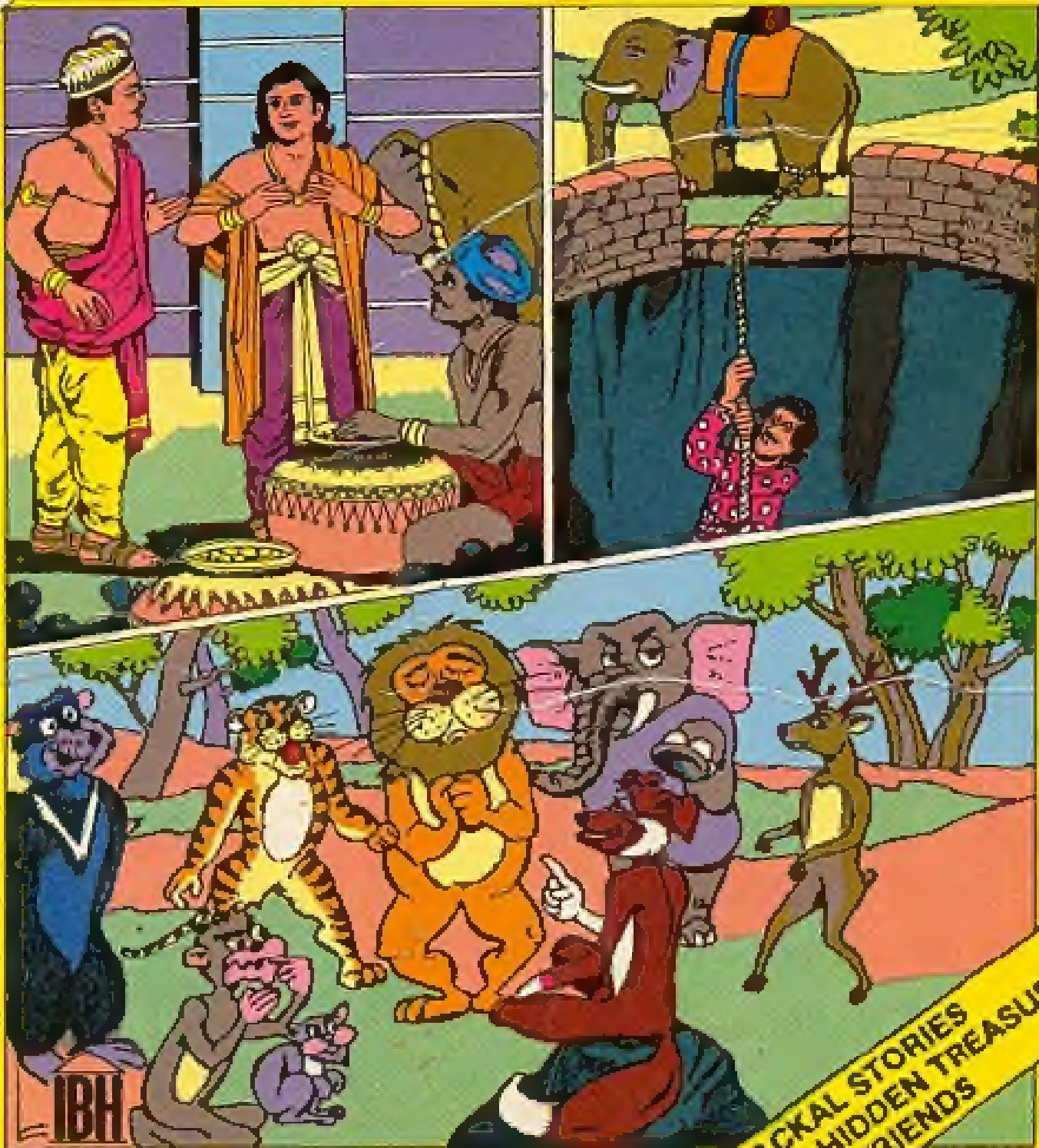


AMAR  
CHITRA  
KATHA

BUMPER ISSUE No. 30 Rs. 20

# JATAKA TALES

THE RIGHTFUL KING AND OTHER STORIES



JACKAL STORIES  
THE HIDDEN TREASURE  
TRUE FRIENDS

IBH

# JATAKA TALES

## The Rightful King and other stories

The Jataka Tales are a veritable treasure of Indian folklore, legend and fable. Each time these popular stories are told, they acquire a new colour and fresh dimension. Besides being entertaining, the Jataka tales give us invaluable information about ancient Indian civilization, culture and philosophy.

The Jataka tales recount the stories of the previous incarnations of the Bodhisattva before he became the Buddha, or the enlightened one. The Bodhisattva came in many forms – man, monkey, elephant, lion, deer etc. Whatever his mortal form, in each story, the Bodhisattva spread the message of justice and wisdom. The present collection includes a selection of these fascinating folktales.

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**JACKAL STORIES** -----

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# THE JACKAL AND THE RATS



ONE DAY, WHILE ROAMING IN THE FOREST IN SEARCH OF FOOD, A JACKAL SUDDENLY SPIED A TROOP OF RATS. THEIR KING WAS A HUGE BANDICOOT.



SO HE FOLLOWED THEM TO THEIR HOLE.

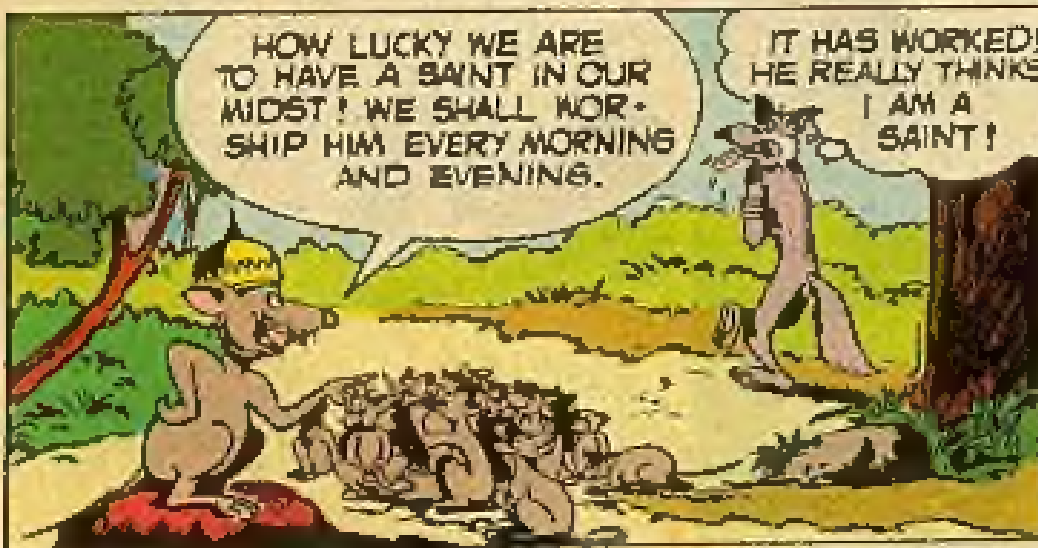


WHEN THE LAST OF THEM HAD GONE INTO THE HOLE, THE JACKAL STOOD OUTSIDE ON ONE LEG, HIS MOUTH OPEN AND HIS FACE TURNED TOWARDS THE SUN.





A LITTLE LATER, WHEN THE RATS CAME OUT AGAIN —

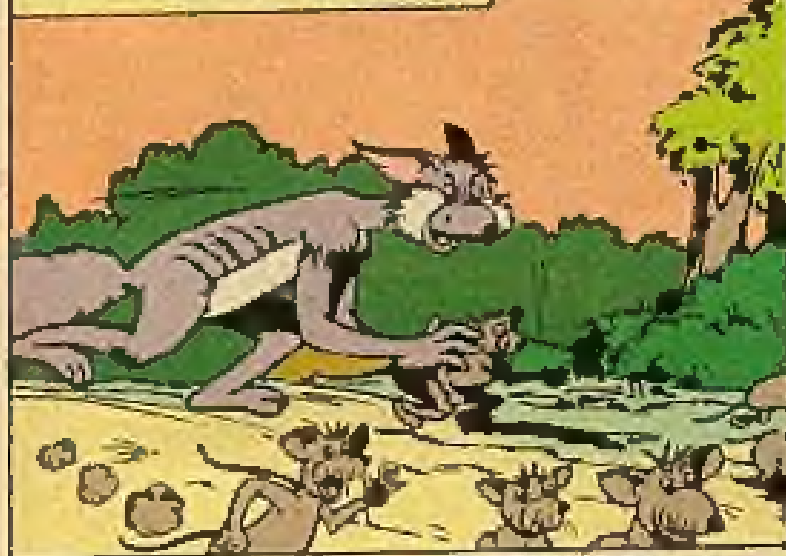




THEIR WORSHIP OVER, THE RATS TROOPED AWAY...



...WHILE THE JACKAL SWIFTLY SWOOPED UPON THE LAST OF THEM.



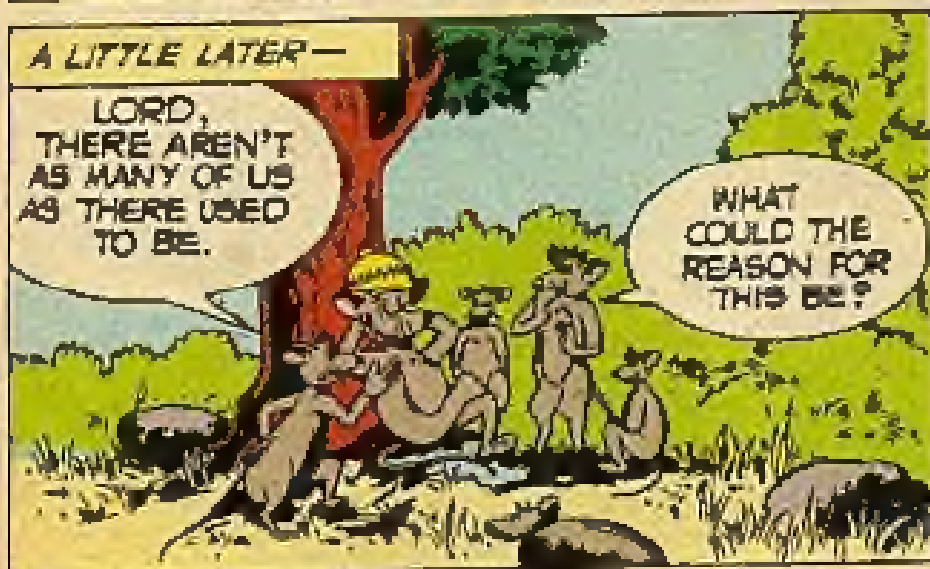
THIS WENT ON FOR MANY DAYS. THEN THE BANDICOOT NOTICED SOMETHING.



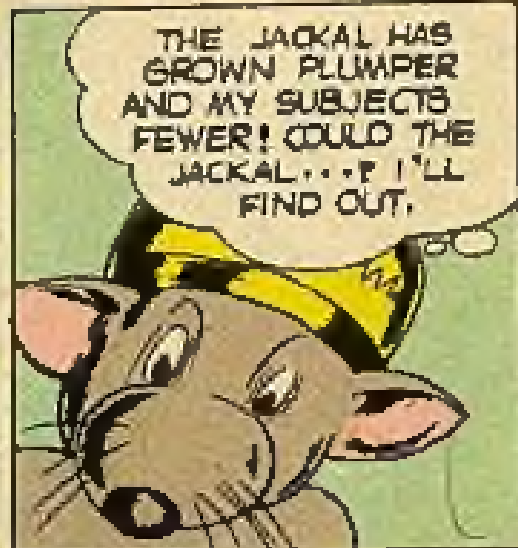
A LITTLE LATER—

LORD, THERE AREN'T AS MANY OF US AS THERE USED TO BE.

WHAT COULD THE REASON FOR THIS BE?



THE JACKAL HAS GROWN PLUMPER AND MY SUBJECTS FEWER! COULD THE JACKAL...? I'LL FIND OUT.

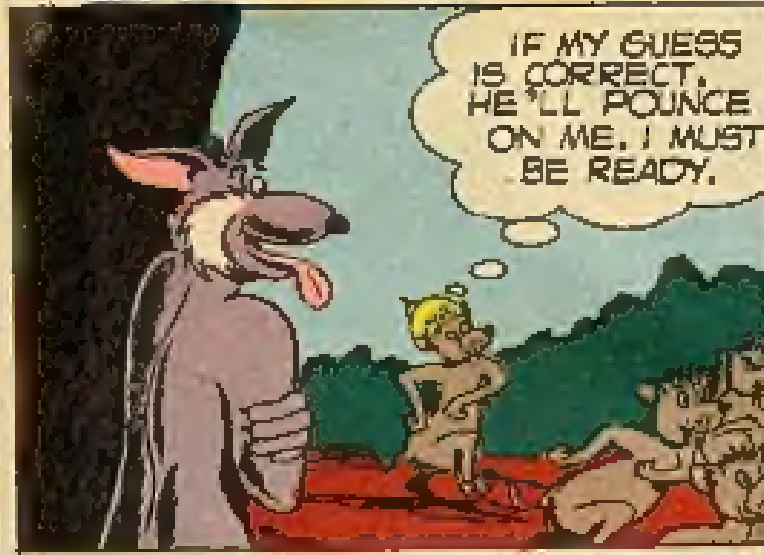


SO THAT EVENING AS THE RATS WERE  
READY TO SET OUT—

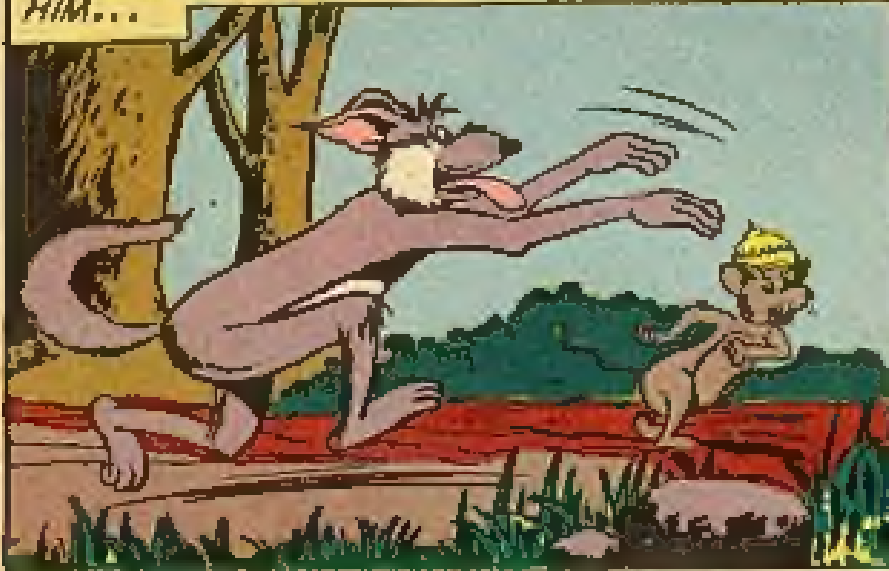
TODAY  
ALL OF YOU GO  
AHEAD. I'LL  
COME OUT  
LAST.



IF MY GUESS  
IS CORRECT,  
HE'LL POUNCE  
ON ME. I MUST  
BE READY.



THE NEXT MOMENT THE JACKAL SPRANG AT  
HIM...

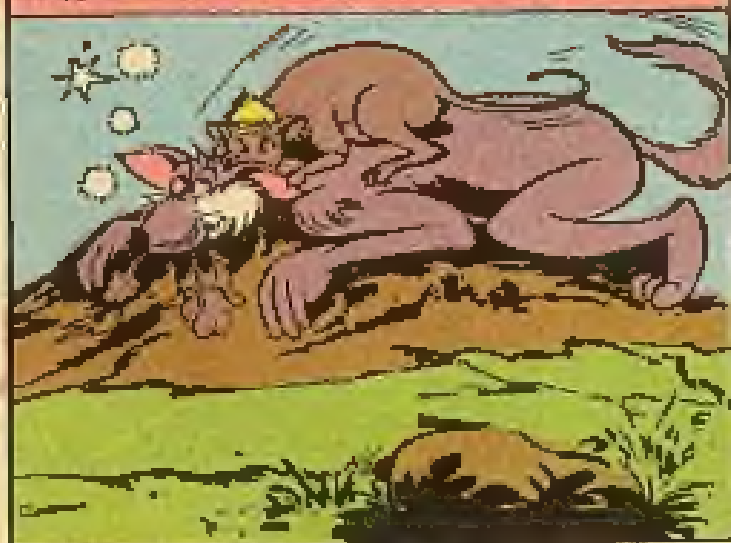


... BUT MISSED.

SO THIS  
IS YOUR  
GAME! YOU  
RASCAL!



THE BANDICOOT DUG HIS TEETH INTO  
THE JACKAL'S THROAT AND KILLED HIM.



BACK CAME ALL THE OTHER RATS AND  
THEY HAD A GRAND FEAST.





# THE JACKAL AND THE LION



A HUNGRY JACKAL ONCE SUDDENLY CAME ACROSS A LION WHO WAS ON HIS WAY HOME.



WHAT DO YOU WANT?

I CANNOT HOPE TO ESCAPE, IT WOULD BE WISER TO PLAY HUMBLE.



MY LORD, PLEASE LET ME BE YOUR HUMBLE SERVANT.

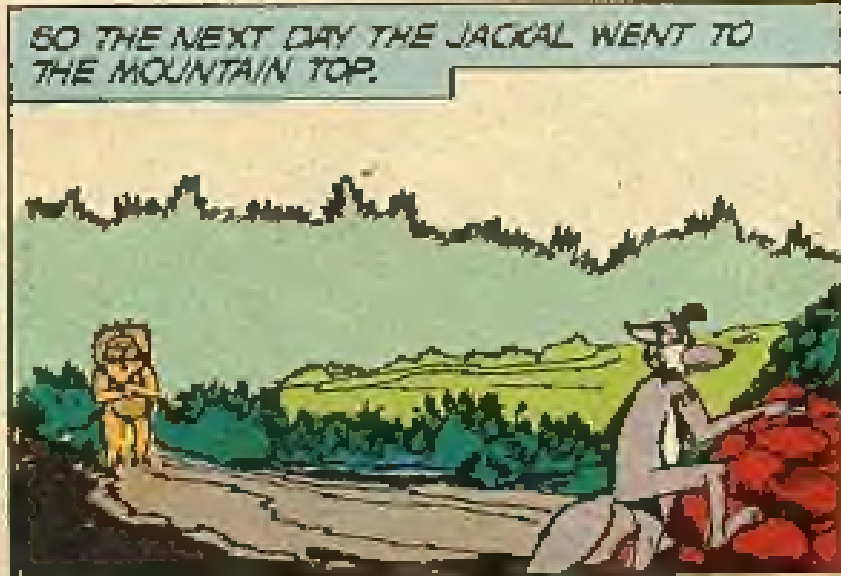
ALL RIGHT.



WHAT LUCK! I'LL NEVER HAVE TO GO HUNGRY AGAIN.

FOLLOW ME.

WHEN THEY REACHED THE LION'S DEN—







HE SPED BACK TO THE LION...



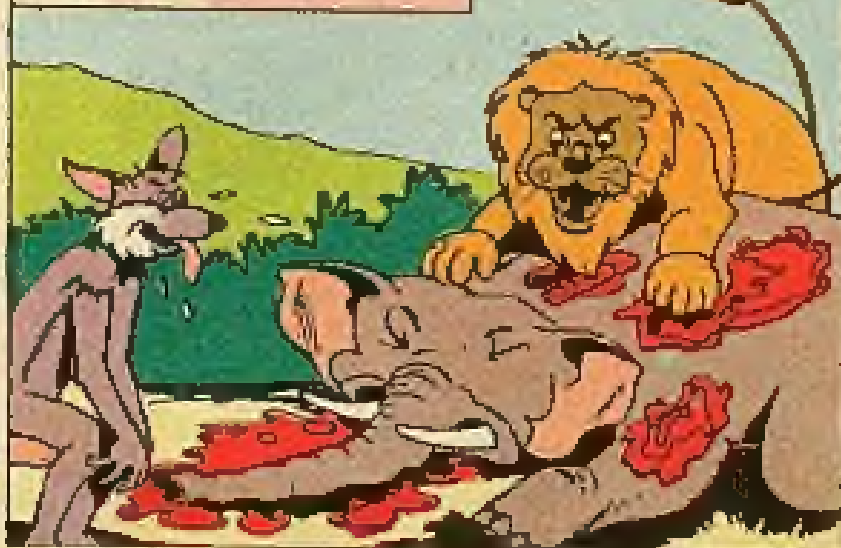
...AND FELL AT HIS FEET.



THE LION KILLED THE ELEPHANT...

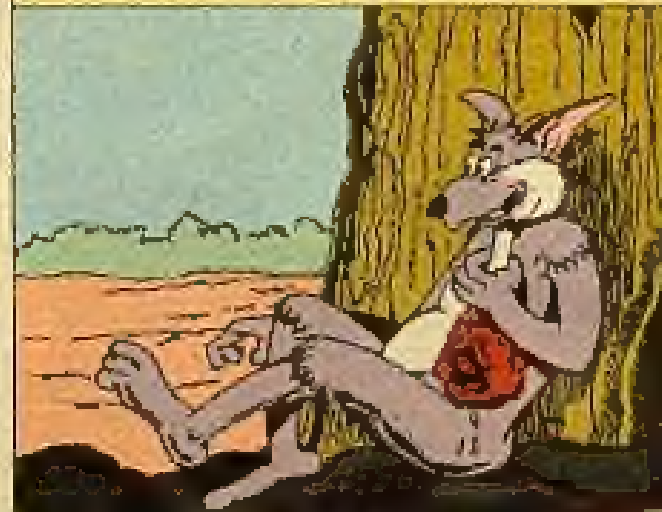


...AND ATE HIS FILL.



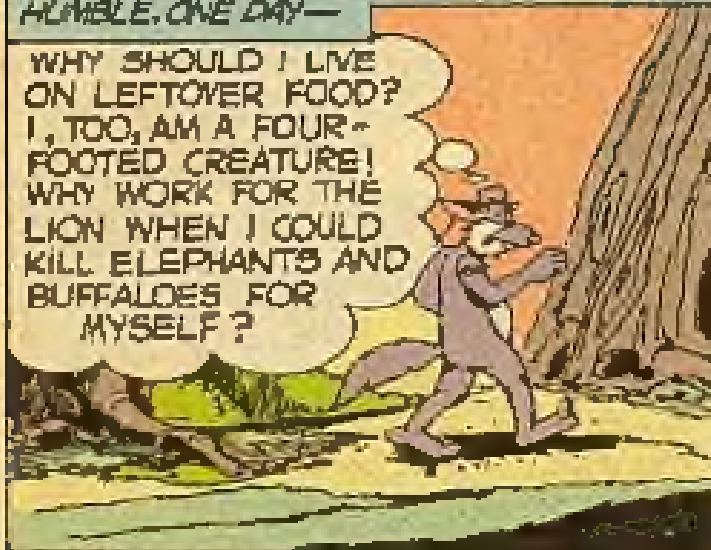


AS THE DAYS WENT BY, THE JACKAL GREW FATTER AND FATTER.



BUT, ALAS! HE GREW LESS AND LESS HUMBLE. ONE DAY—

WHY SHOULD I LIVE ON LEFTOVER FOOD? I, TOO, AM A FOUR-FOOTED CREATURE! WHY WORK FOR THE LION WHEN I COULD KILL ELEPHANTS AND BUFFALOES FOR MYSELF?



AFTER ALL, THE LION ONLY GETS HIS STRENGTH FROM THE MAGIC PHRASE, "GO FORTH AND SHINE IN ALL YOUR MIGHT".



HE APPEALED TO THE LION.

MY LORD, I HAVE LIVED FOR TOO LONG ON WHAT YOU KILL. I WOULD LIKE TO EAT AN ELEPHANT I HAVE KILLED MYSELF.



THE LION WAS SILENT FOR A WHILE.

WHAT A FOOLISH IDEA! HE'LL BE KILLED HIMSELF!



O JACKAL, ONLY LIONS  
CAN KILL ELEPHANTS  
BUT UP THIS BILLY IDEA  
AND BE HAPPY TO  
EAT WHAT KILL

PLEASE, MY LORD, DON'T  
DENY ME THIS CHANCE. I'LL  
WAIT HERE, WHILE YOU  
GO TO THE MOUNTAIN-  
TOP.

WHEN YOU SEE AN  
ELEPHANT, COME TO ME  
AND SAY, "SHINE FORTH  
IN ALL YOUR MIGHT, JACKAL."  
AND I'M SURE TO  
KILL IT.

AT LAST THE LION GAVE IN

ALL RIGHT  
I'LL DO IT.

A LITTLE LATER, THE LION CAME BACK.

HAVE JUST SPIED  
AN ELEPHANT COMING  
THIS WAY SHINE FORTH  
IN ALL YOUR MIGHT,  
JACKAL



THE JACKAL  
NIMBLY  
DROPPED  
AWAY...



... ON THE TRAIL OF THE ELEPHANT.

I'LL CATCH HIM  
BY THE THROAT  
AND KILL HIM.



HE SPRANG AT THE ELEPHANT.



... BUT MISSED HIM.



THE PUZZLED ELEPHANT  
JUST WALKED OVER HIM...



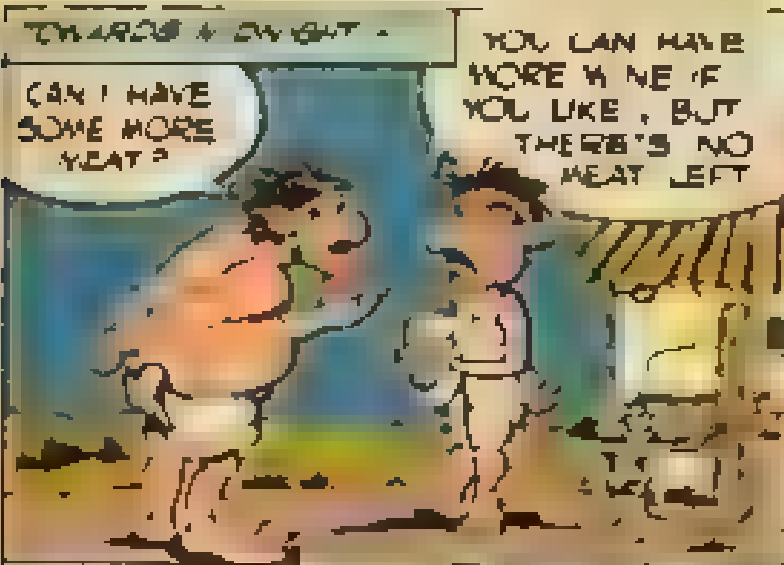
... AND THAT WAS THE END OF THE FOOLHARDY JACKAL.



# THE CLEVER JACKAL



A GROUP OF ROGUES WERE ONCE HAVING A BONFIRE



TOWARDS NIGHT -

CAN I HAVE  
SOME MORE  
MEAT?

YOU CAN HAVE  
MORE IF YOU  
LIKE, BUT  
THERE'S NO  
MEAT LEFT



WHAT? NO MEAT?  
BUT MUST  
HAVE SOME!



I'LL GO TO THE  
CHARNEL-GROVE,  
KILL A PROWLING  
JACKAL,  
AND BRING YOU ITS  
MEAT.



CLUB Y HAD, THE BRAGGART ENCHAINED OFF

WHEN HE REACHED  
THE GROVE —

I'LL PRETEND  
'M A CORPSE, THAT  
WILL ATTRACT JACKALS  
AND KEEP AWAY LIONS  
AND TIGERS.

WHEN A JACKAL  
COMES NEAR, I'LL  
KILL HIM WITH  
MY CLUB.

A LITTLE LATER, A PACK OF JACKALS CAME BY.

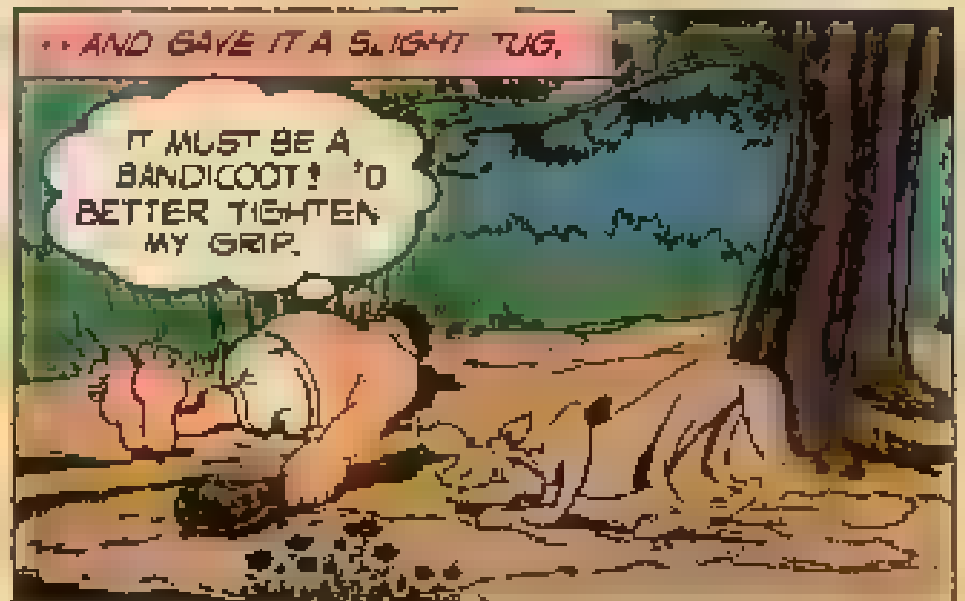
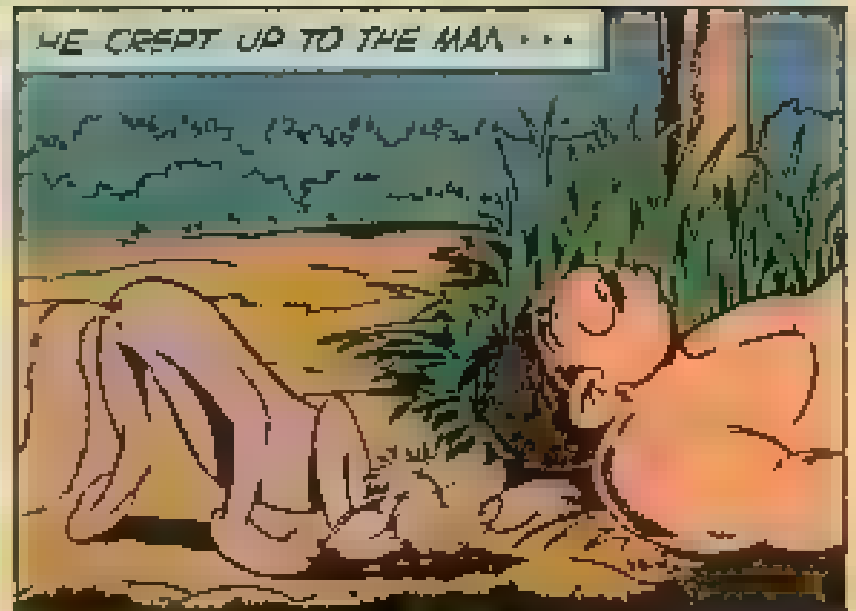
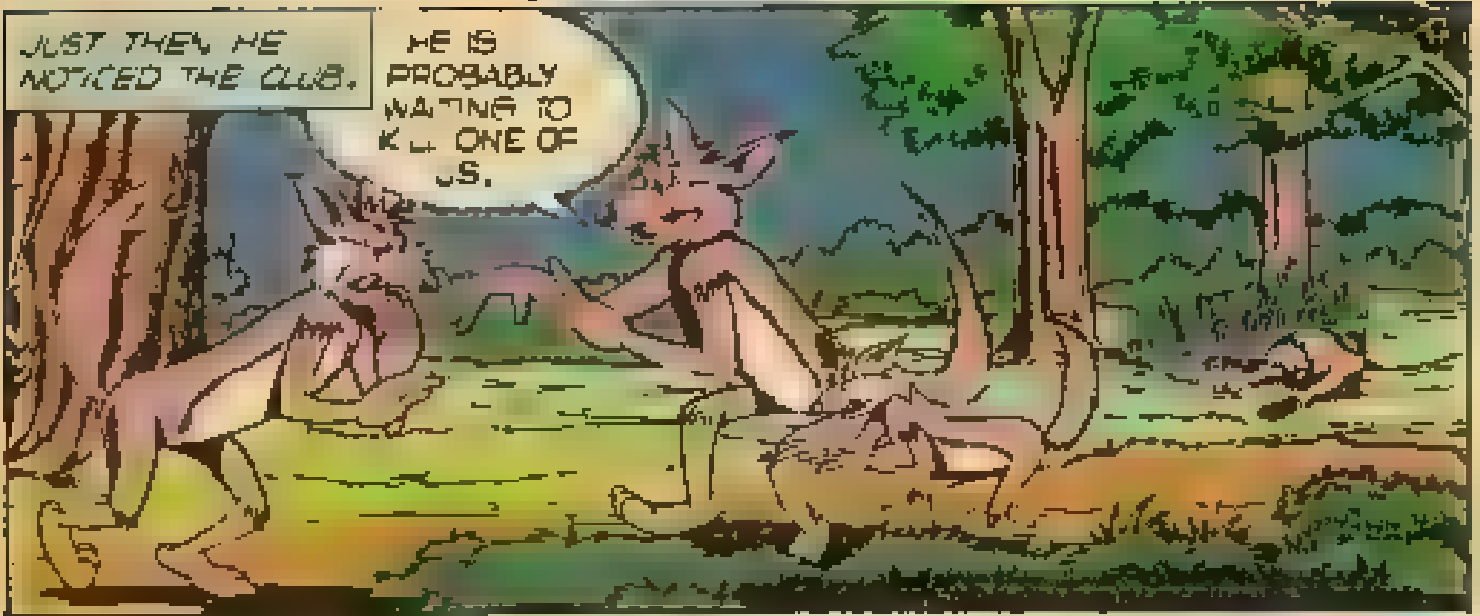
LOOK, THERE'S  
A CORPSE  
COME ON!

WAIT! LET ME  
MAKE SURE WE'RE  
SAFE

SMELL!  
SMELL!

THE SMELL  
OF A LIVING  
MAN, JUST AS  
THOUGHT HE IS  
ONLY PRETENDING  
TO BE DEAD.





THE NEXT MOMENT THE JACKAL LET GO OF THE CLUB WITH A LERK



THE STARTLED ROGUE JUMPED TO HIS FEET,  
FLUNG HIS CLUB AT THE JACKAL.



... AND I SSED.



I DARE NOT  
FACE MY FRIENDS  
AFTER MY  
VAN BIAS.



I'D BETTER  
GO HOME AND  
SLEEP.



# THE JACKAL AND THE MAGIC SPELL



AS THE BRAHMAN DROPT A LITTLE OF THE CANALY DEPT'Y, A JACKAL, WHO WAS DEPT'Y TO A SE OFT OFTEN,

A JACKAL LYING NEAR BY PRICKED UP HIS EARS.

I'VE BEEN  
DEPT'Y  
TO A SE  
OFT OFTEN



A LITTLE LATER THE BRAHMAN DROPT

HE'VE  
MASTERY



THE NEXT MOMENT, TO HIS SUR-  
PRISE A JACKAL STOOD BEFORE HIM

NO! BRAHMAN, YOU  
WOULDN'T HAVE MASTER  
ED THE SPELL BETTER  
THAN



AND OFF HE RAN THE NEXT DAY AFTER HIM

I MUST CATCH  
HIM HE'LL PLAY  
HAYOL WITH THAT  
SPELL





BUT THE JACKAL ESCAPED DEEP INTO THE FOREST.

I'LL FIRST GET MARRIED AND THEN, USING THE SPELL, I'LL BRING ALL THE FOUR FOOTED CREATURES OF THE FOREST UNDER MY SWAY



HE SOON FOUND HIMSELF A SHE-JACKAL

IF YOU BECOME MY WIFE YOU SHALL BE QUEEN OF ALL THE ANIMALS OF THE FOREST

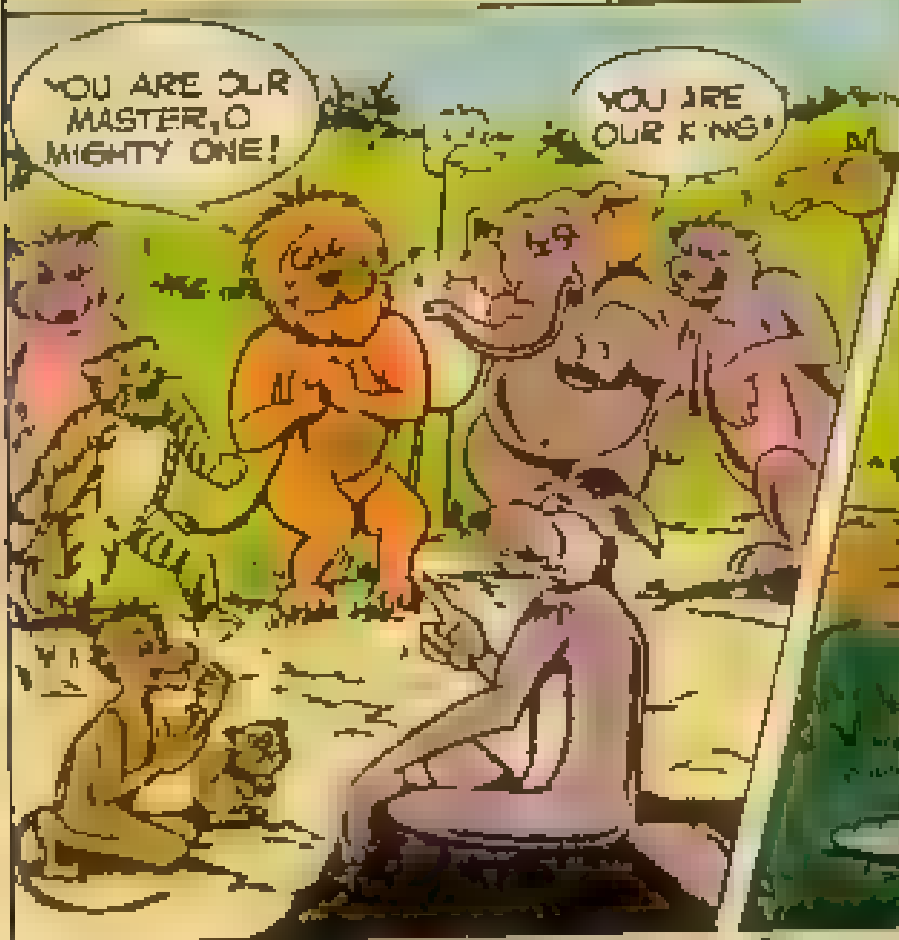
I'M W - NG



LATER HE UTTERED THE SPELL AND ALL THE ANIMALS BEGAN TO FLOCK TOWARDS HIM.

YOU ARE OUR MASTER, O MIGHTY ONE!

YOU ARE OUR KING!



THEY BEATED THE JACKAL AND HIS WIFE ON A LOG WHICH STOOD ON TWO ELEPHANTS



THEY WERE IN A TLE ON THE LAKE, AND RIVER TO HIM

HAL SARVADATA,  
CHOSEN KING OF  
THE ANIMALS!

HAL!

THE KING OF THE WILD

WE DIRECTS,  
WE CAN  
CARRY THE  
CITY OF  
WINDS.

THEY WERE IN A TLE ON THE LAKE, AND RIVER TO HIM  
MARCHED TO VARANAS.

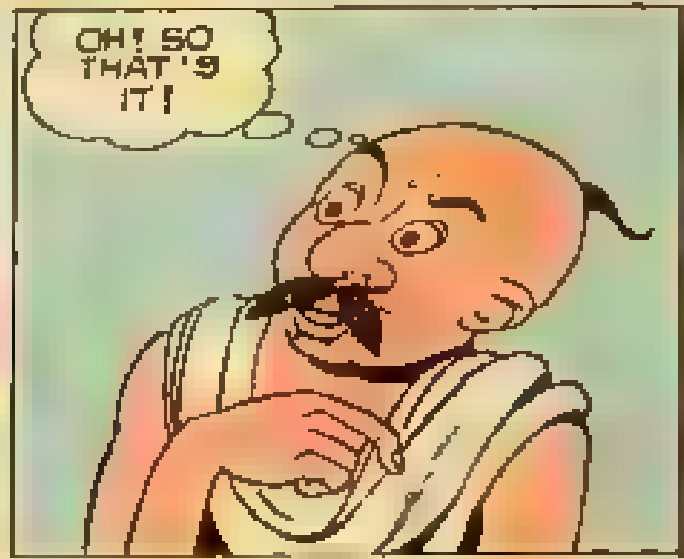
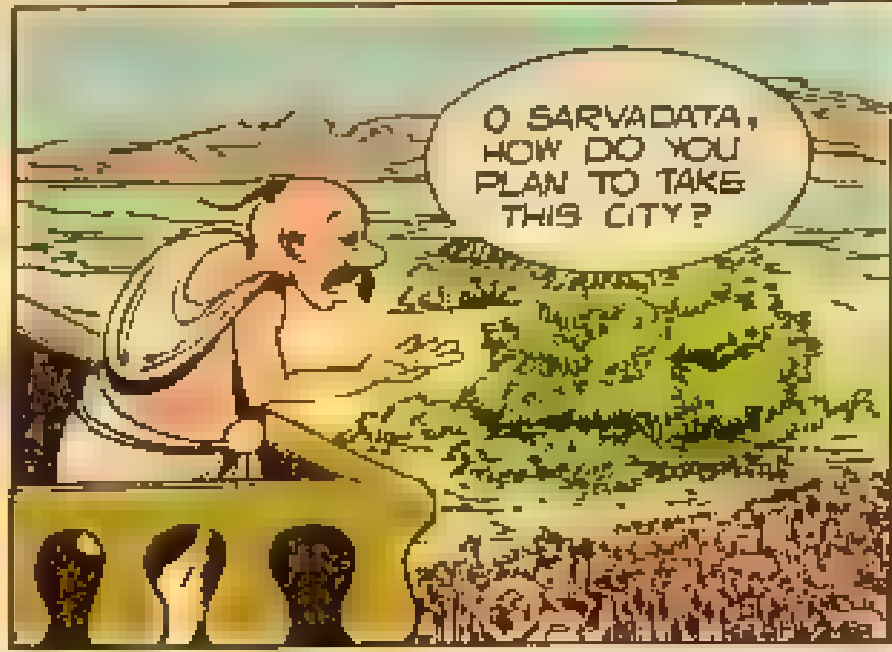
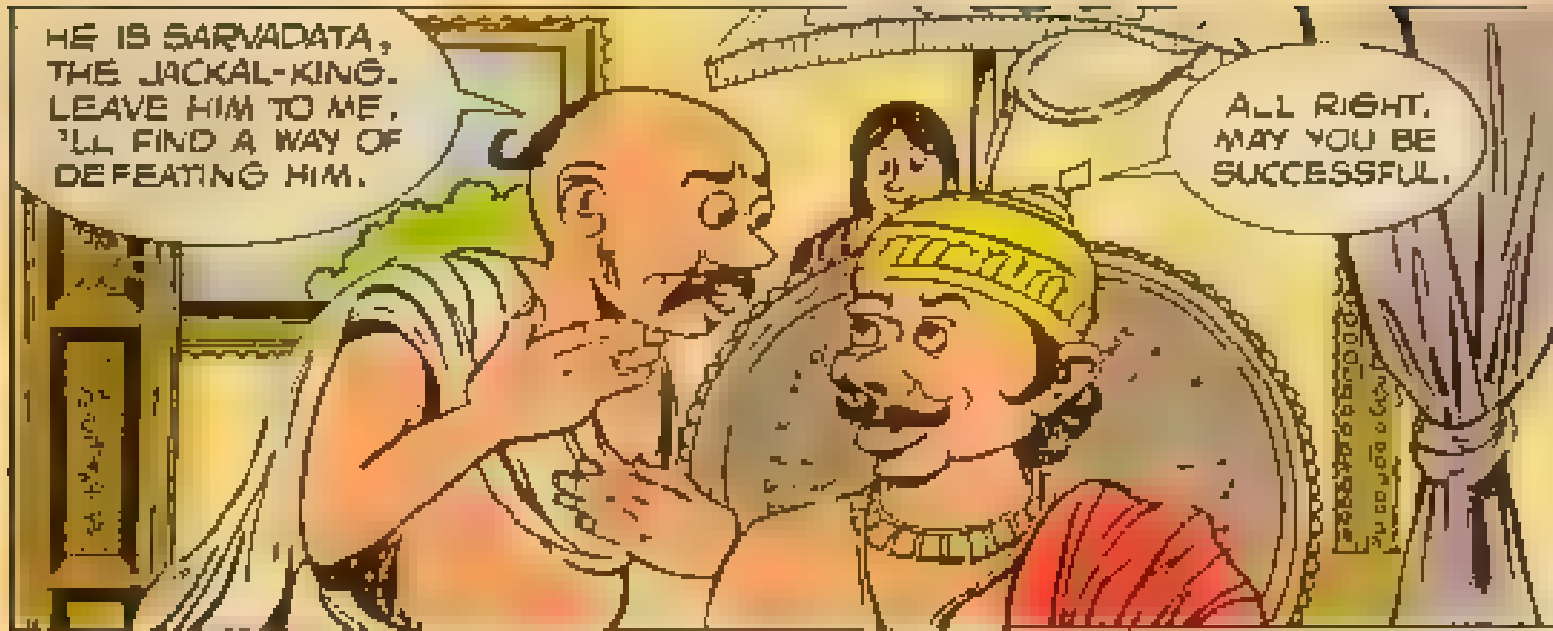
WE SHALL (AND  
HERE AND SEND A  
MESSAGE TO  
THE KING.

THEY WERE IN A TLE ON THE LAKE, AND RIVER TO HIM

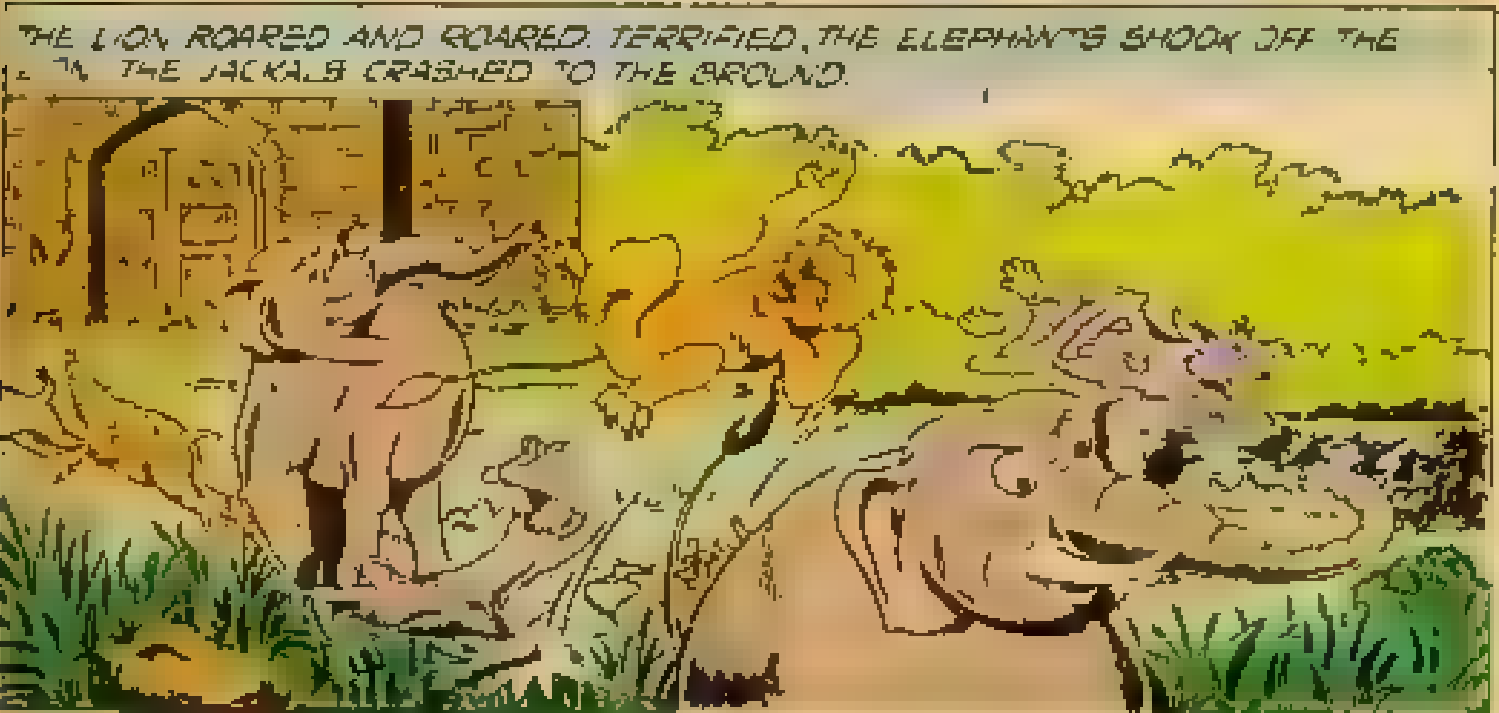
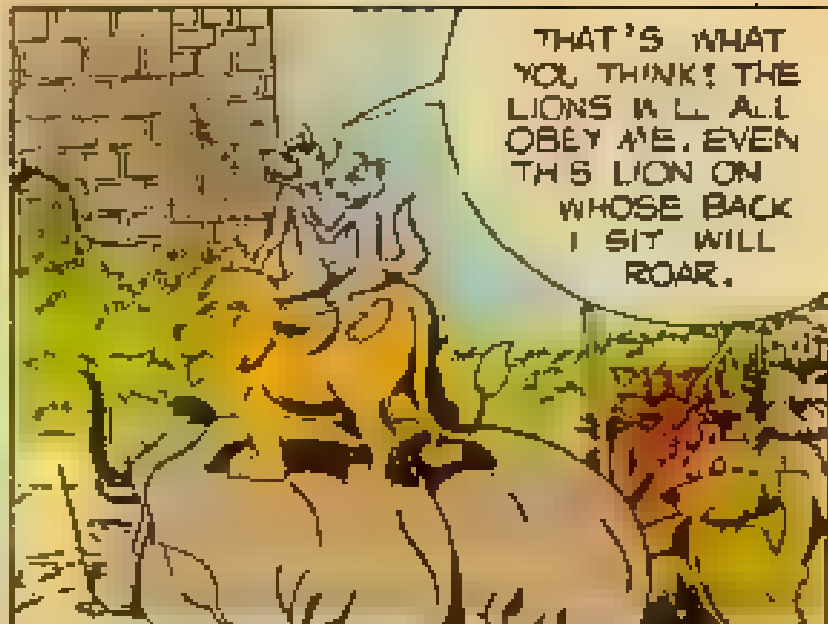
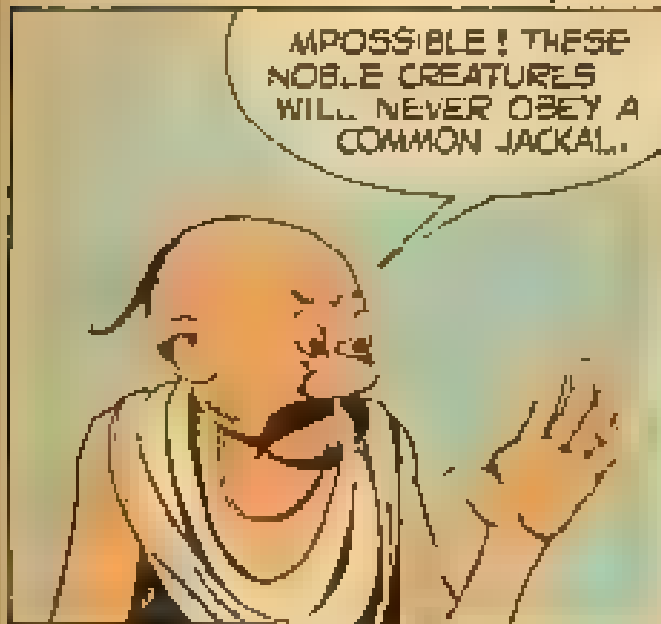
THEY WERE IN A TLE ON THE LAKE, AND RIVER TO HIM

THEY WERE IN A TLE ON THE LAKE, AND RIVER TO HIM

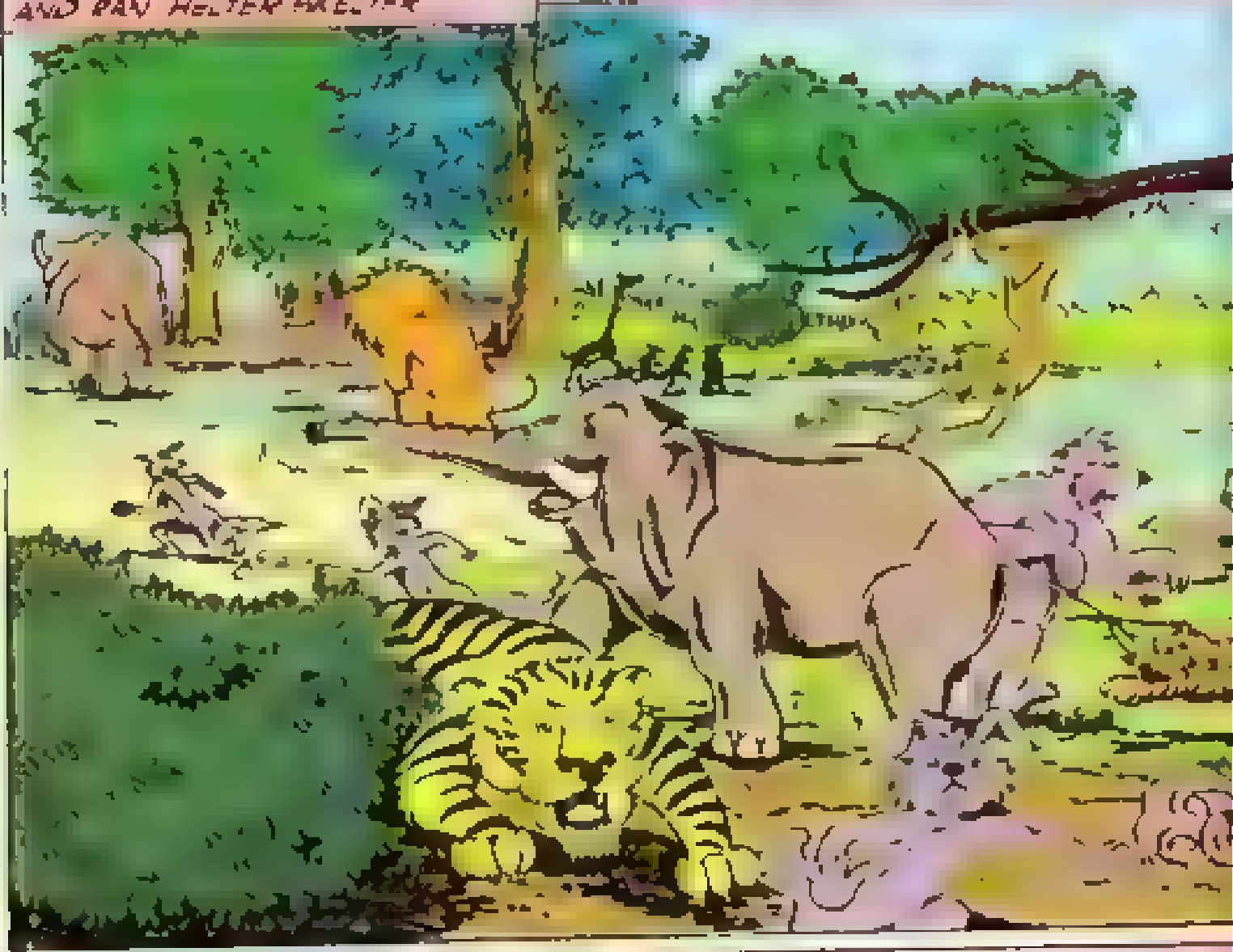
THEY WERE IN A TLE ON THE LAKE, AND RIVER TO HIM



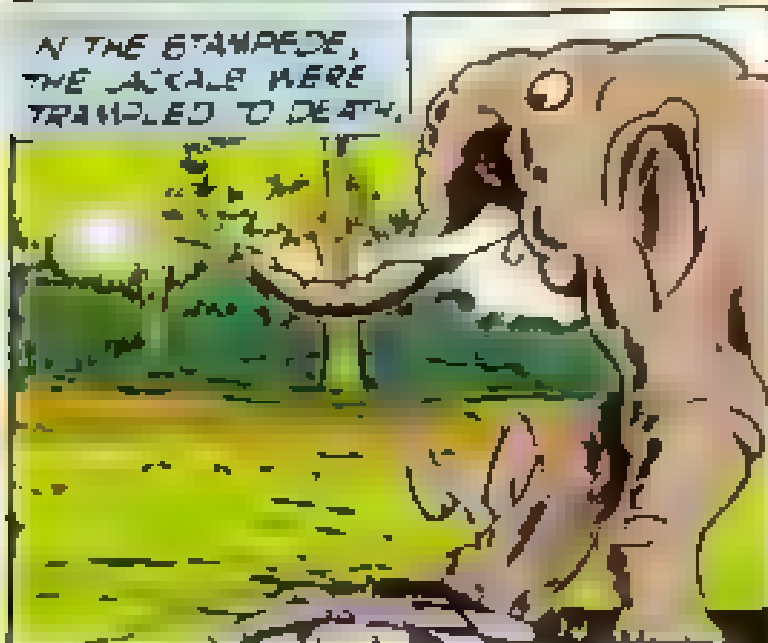




SEEING THE ELEPHANTS RUN AWAY, ALL THE ANIMALS BROKE TO A SCAMP AND RAN HELTER SKELTOR



IN THE STAMPEDE, THE JACKALS WERE TRAMPLED TO DEATH.



THAT WAS THE END OF A JACKAL WHO HAD DARED TO DREAM OF CONQUERING THE ELEPHANTS.



# THE JACKAL AND THE OTTERS



A JACKAL'S WIFE ONCE WANTED TO EAT SOME FRESH ROH-TA FISH. PROMISING TO BRING IT FOR HER, THE JACKAL WENT TO THE RIVER.



I'VE PROMISED TO BRING HER THE FISH BUT HOW AM I GOING TO DO IT?

THEN HE SAW TWO OTTERS DRASSING A HUGE ROH-TA FISH

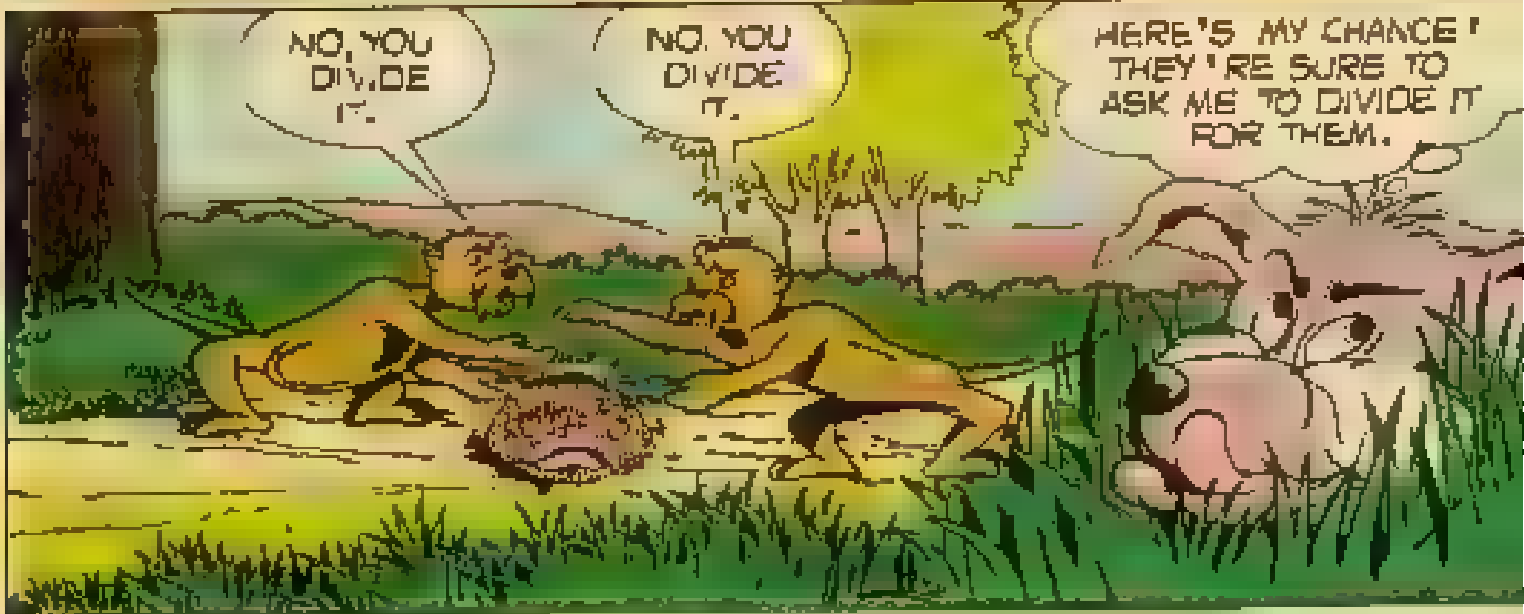


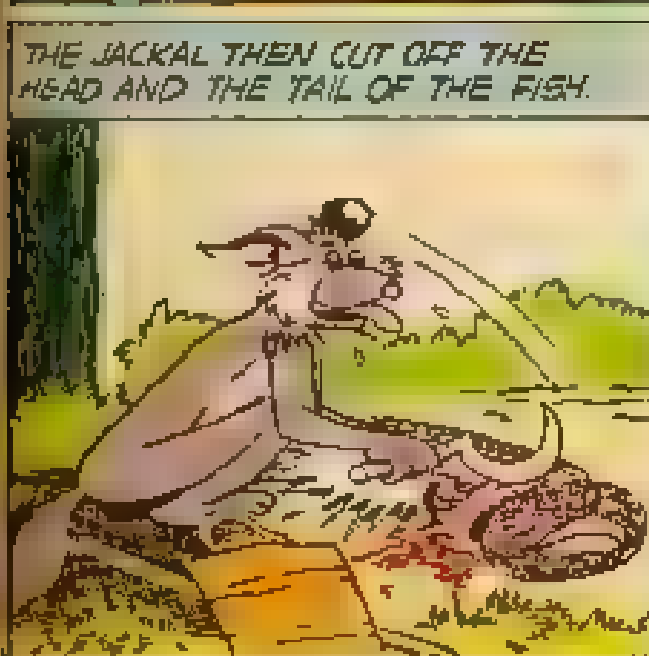
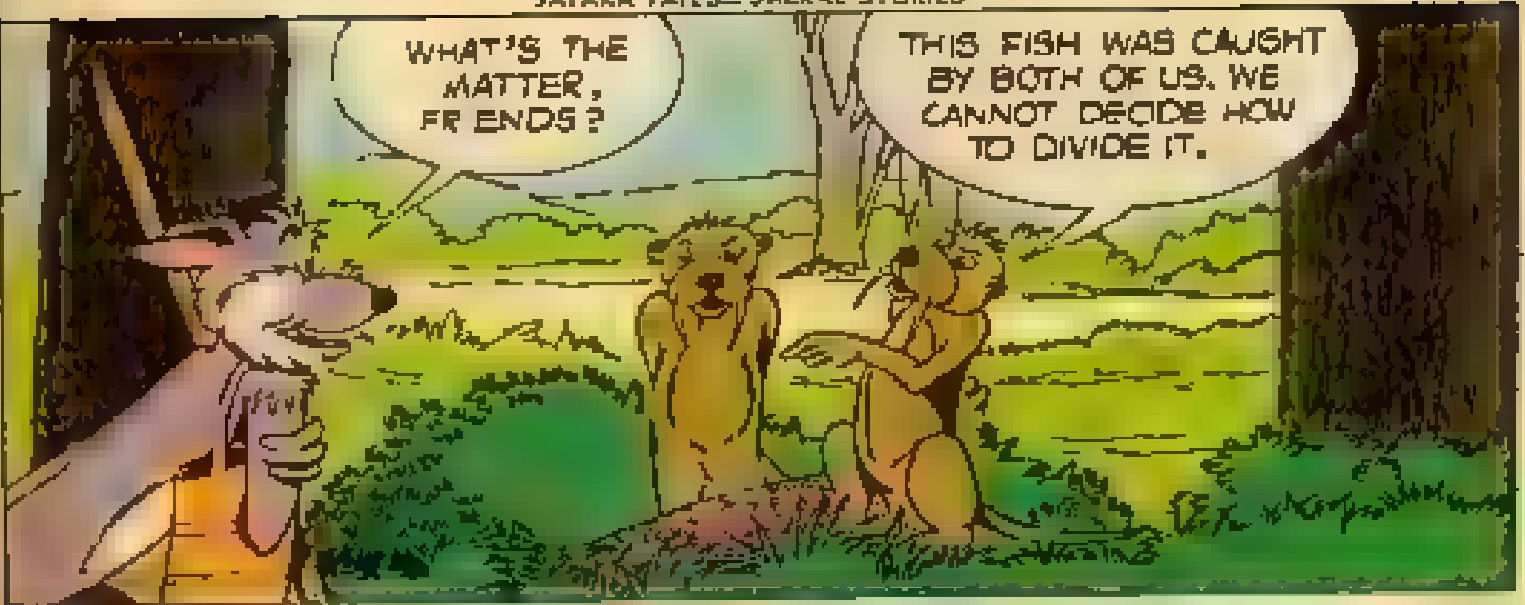
THIS FISH SHOULD LAST US A LONG TIME

THE JACKAL DREW NEARER.

YES, BUT HOW  
SHALL WE  
DIVIDE IT?

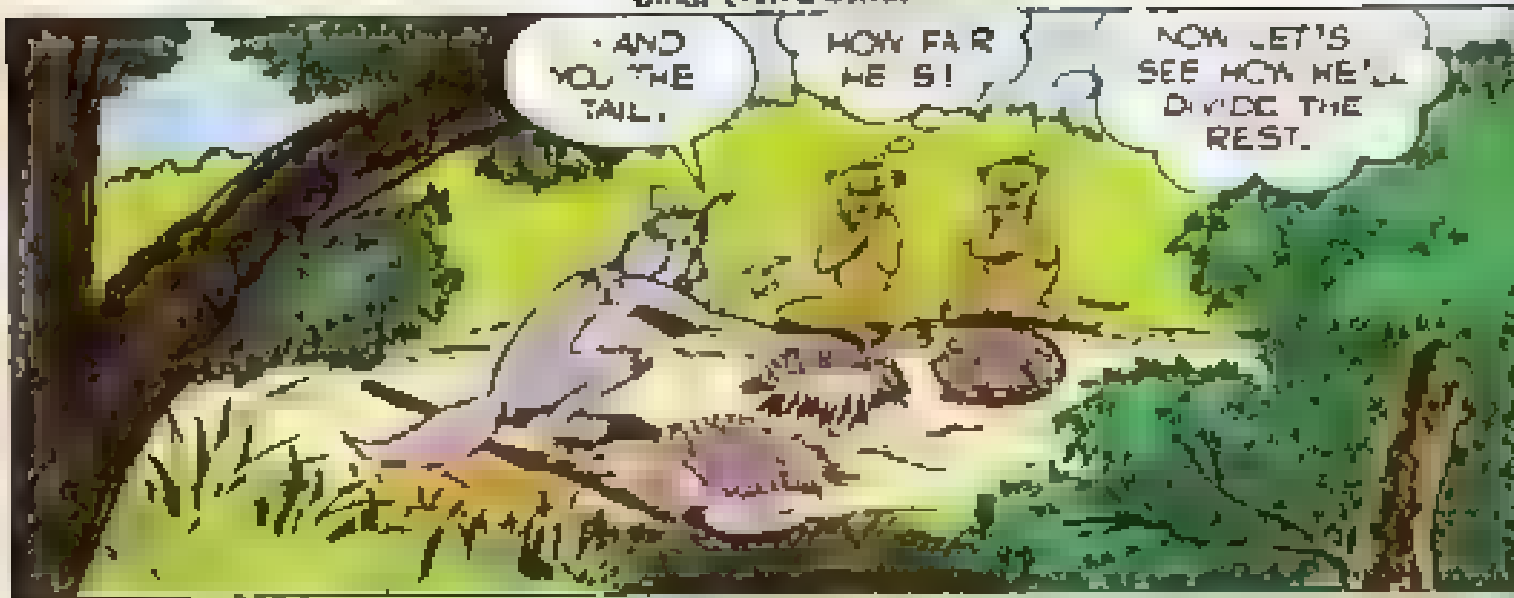
F, DIVIDE T, I'LL  
HAVE TO GIVE HIM  
THE LARGER  
SHARE.







amar ching wihai



AND YOU THE TAIL.

HOW FAR HE IS!

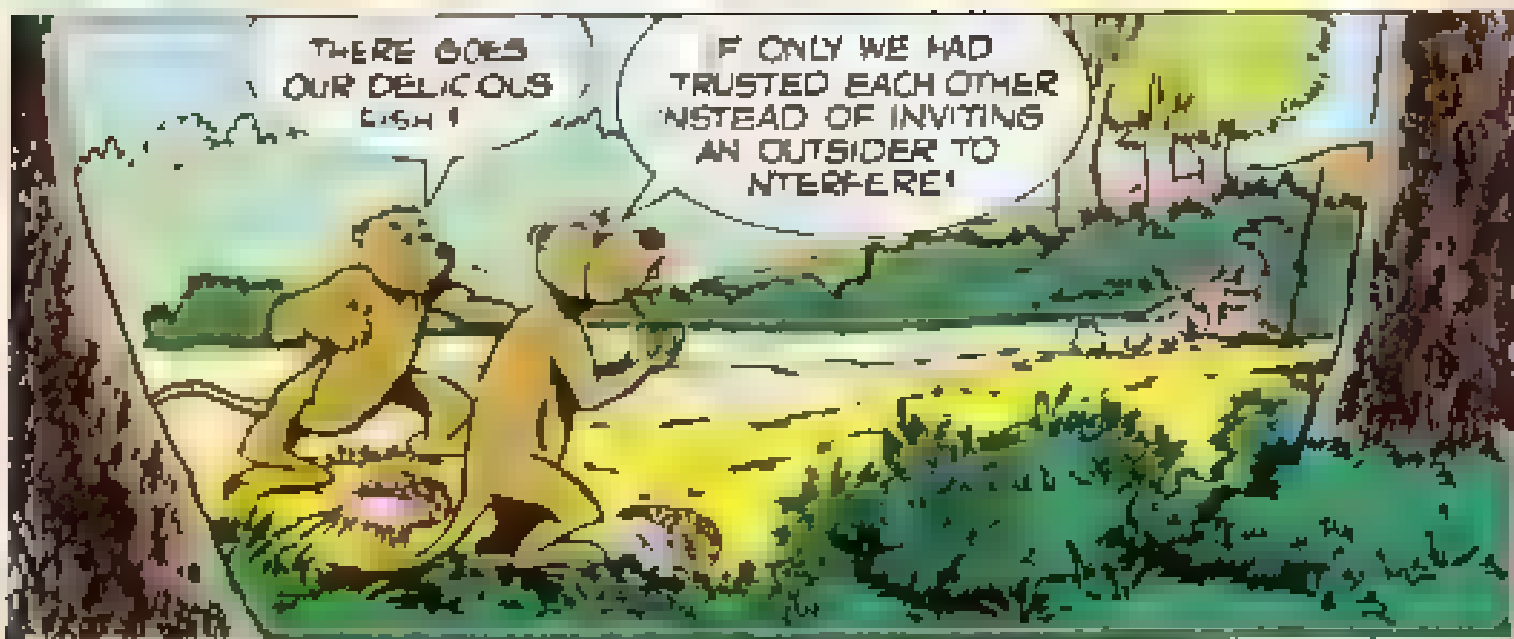
NOW LET'S SEE HOW HE'LL DIVIDE THE REST.



THIS SHALL KEEP AS MY FEE!



AND BEFORE THEIR VERY EYES HE RAN OFF WITH THE BEST PORTION OF THE FISH



THERE GOES OUR DELICIOUS FISH!

IF ONLY WE HAD TRUSTED EACH OTHER INSTEAD OF INVITING AN OUTSIDER TO INTERFERE!

# THE JACKAL AND THE SHE-GOAT



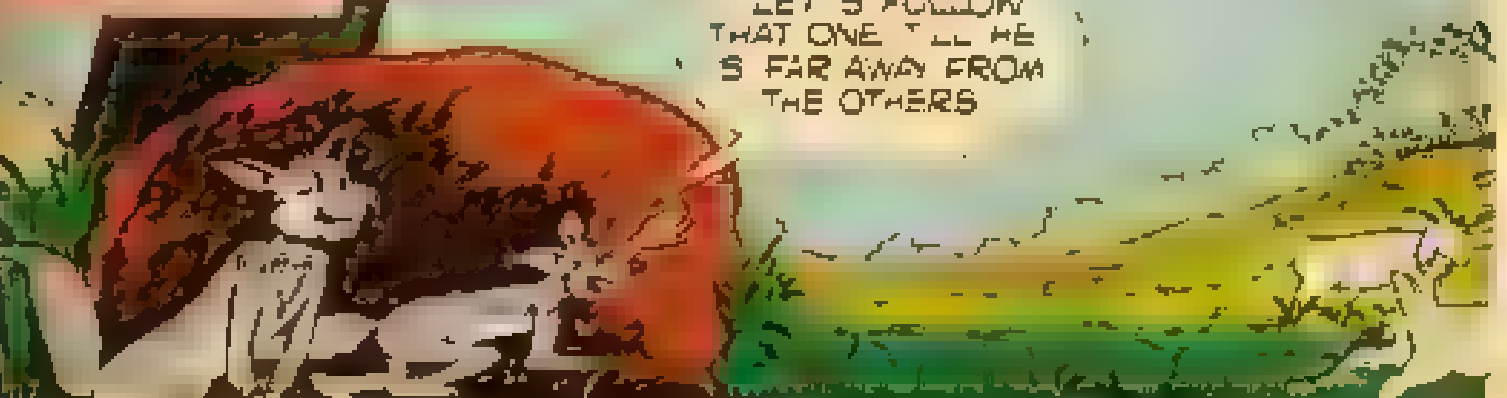
LONG AGO IN A CAVE ON THE SLOPES OF THE HIMALAYAS, THERE LIVED A HERD OF WILD GOATS ONE DAY, AS A JACKAL AND HIS MATE WERE PROWLING ABOUT FOR FOOD, THEY SAW THE GOATS GRAZING.



COME! LET  
US KILL ONE  
OF THEM

WAIT! IF WE ARE  
CLEVER, WE'LL HAVE  
FOOD ENOUGH FOR  
MANY MONTHS.

THEY WAITED TILL THE GOATS  
BEGAN TO MOVE APART  
AS THEY GRAZED.



LET'S FOLLOW  
THAT ONE 'TILL HE  
IS FAR AWAY FROM  
THE OTHERS

A FEW HOURS LATER —

THERE! I'VE  
KILLED HIM NOW  
HELP ME DRAG  
HIM TO OUR  
CAVE.

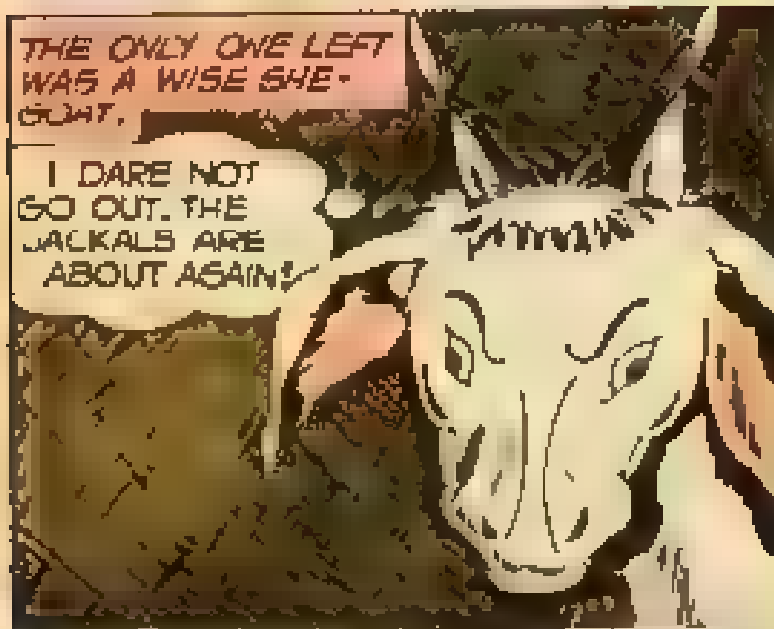


MANY MONTHS PASSED AND, ONE BY ONE, THE  
GOATS WERE EATEN BY THE JACKALS.



THE ONLY ONE LEFT  
WAS A WISE SHE-  
GOAT.

I DARE NOT  
GO OUT. THE  
JACKALS ARE  
ABOUT AGAIN!



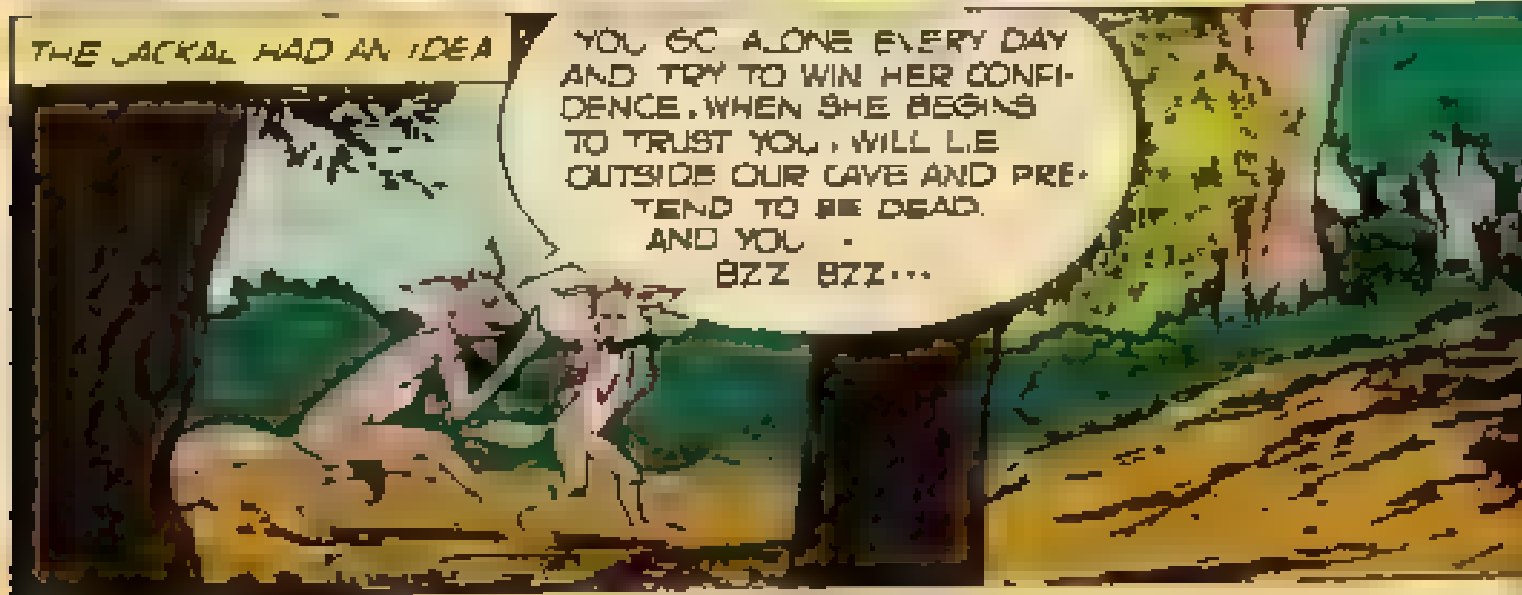
THAT SHE-GOAT  
SEEMS TO BE WISE  
TO US SHE DOES  
NOT COME OUT  
AT ALL




THE JACKAL HAD AN IDEA

YOU GO ALONE EVERY DAY  
AND TRY TO WIN HER CONFIDENCE. WHEN SHE BEGINS  
TO TRUST YOU, WILL LIE  
OUTSIDE OUR CAVE AND PRE-  
TEND TO BE DEAD.

AND YOU -  
BZZ BZZ...




EAGER TO CARRY OUT THE PLAN, THE SHE-JACKAL HASTENED TO THE GOAT'S CAVE



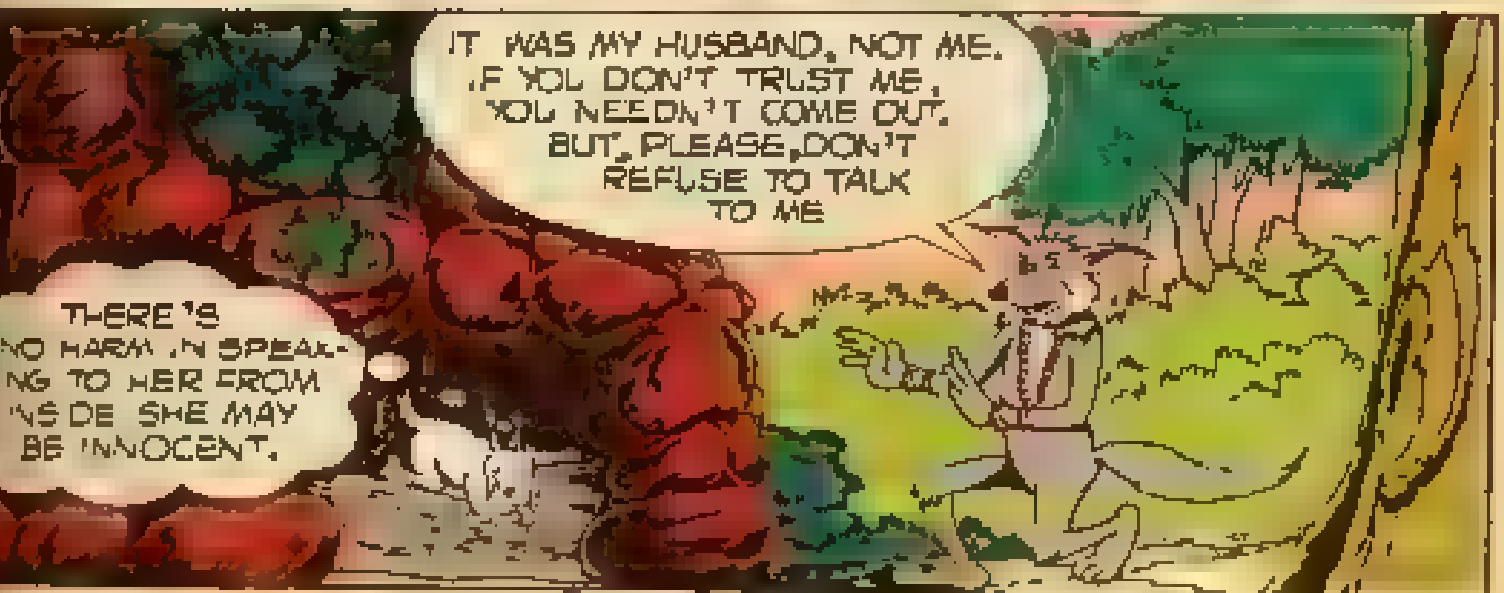
O WISE GOAT,  
DO YOU LIVE  
HERE ALL  
ALONE?

IT'S THE  
WIFE OF THE  
JACKAL!



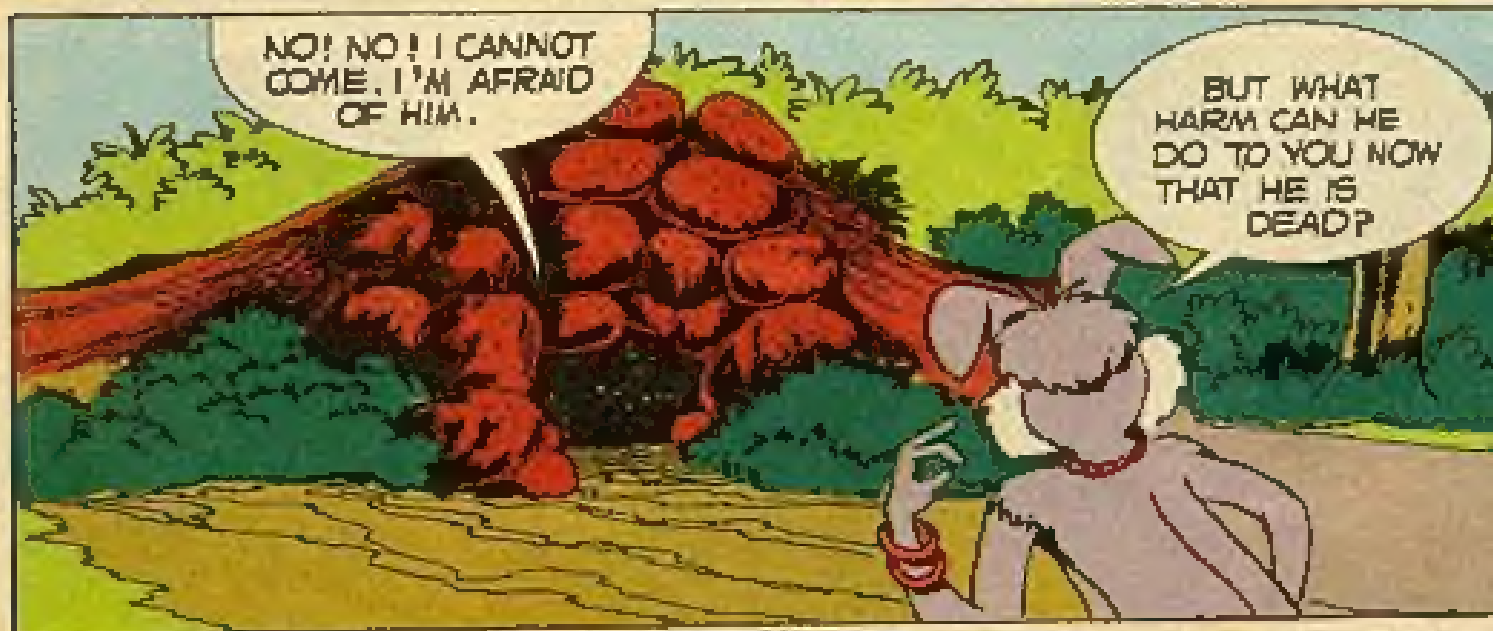
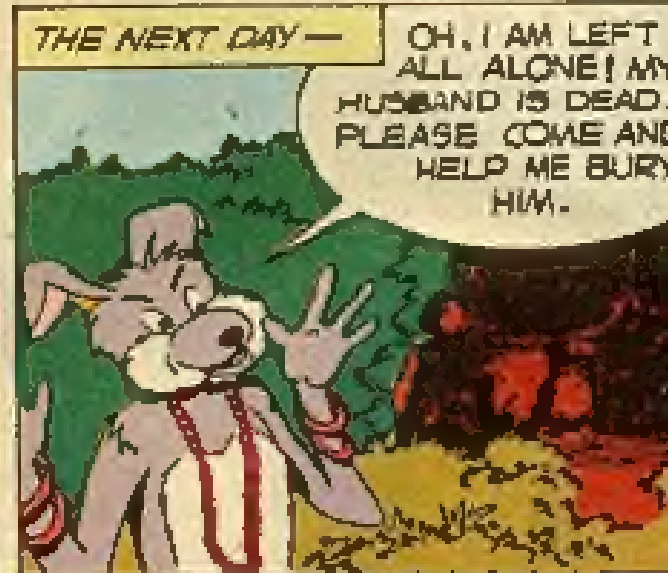
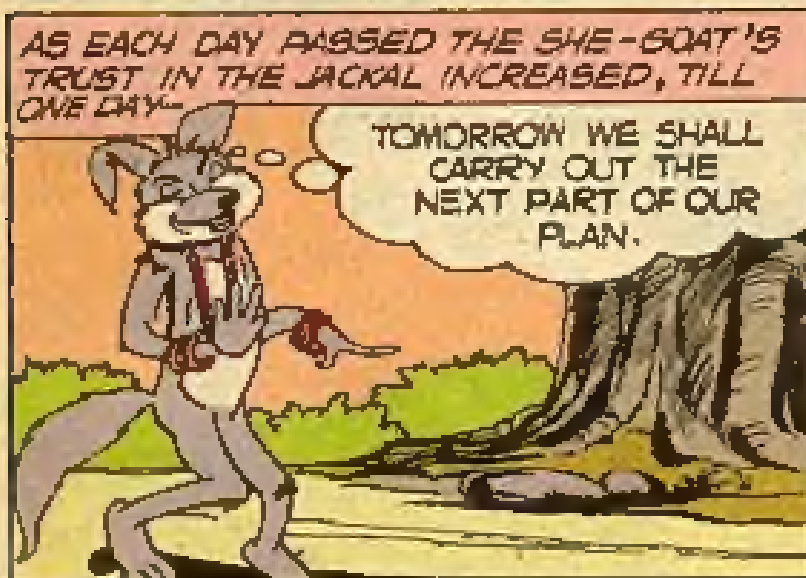
PLEASE DON'T BE AFRAID,  
I'VE COME TO MAKE  
FRIENDS WITH YOU  
PLEASE COME  
OUT.

NO! I DON'T  
TRUST YOU. GO  
AWAY. YOU  
KILLED ALL MY  
RELATIVES.



IT WAS MY HUSBAND, NOT ME.  
IF YOU DON'T TRUST ME,  
YOU NEEDN'T COME OUT.  
BUT, PLEASE, DON'T  
REFUSE TO TALK  
TO ME

THERE'S  
NO HARM IN SPEAK-  
ING TO HER FROM  
INSIDE SHE MAY  
BE INNOCENT.





DEAD OR ALIVE, HE'S  
CRUEL AND I'M  
AFRAID TO COME  
OUT.

AND I HAD  
THOUGHT YOU WERE  
MY FRIEND! HOW  
UNFORTUNATE I AM  
THAT I MUST BURY  
MY HUSBAND ALL  
BY MYSELF!

SHE CAN'T BE  
LYING. HE MUST  
REALLY BE  
DEAD.

DON'T WEEP,  
MY FRIEND.  
I'LL COME  
WITH YOU.

AS THEY WERE ABOUT TO SET OUT,  
HOWEVER, THE SHE-GOAT SUDDENLY  
BECAME DOUBTFUL AGAIN.

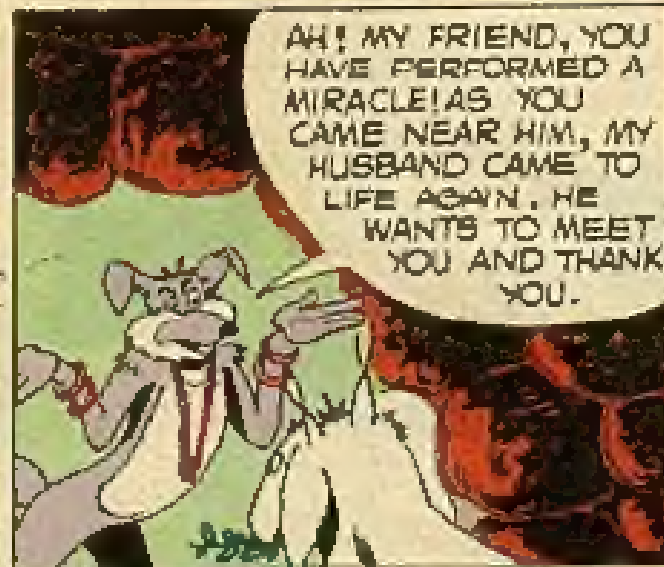
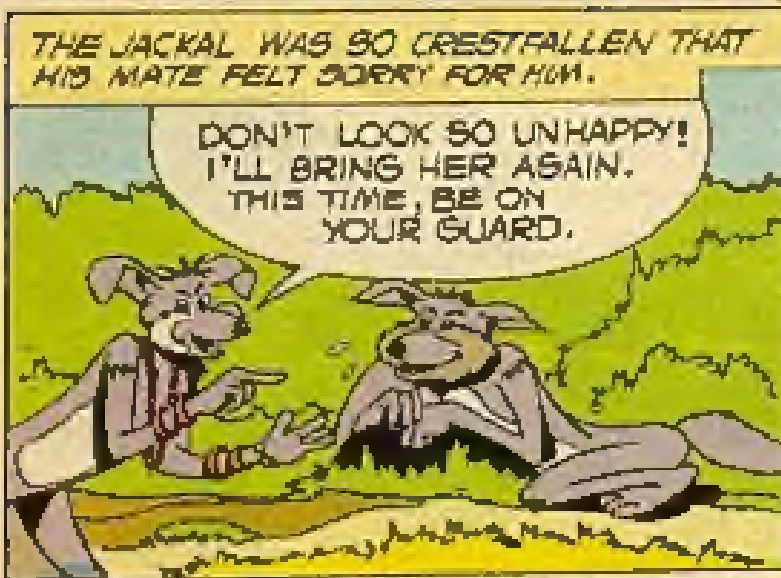
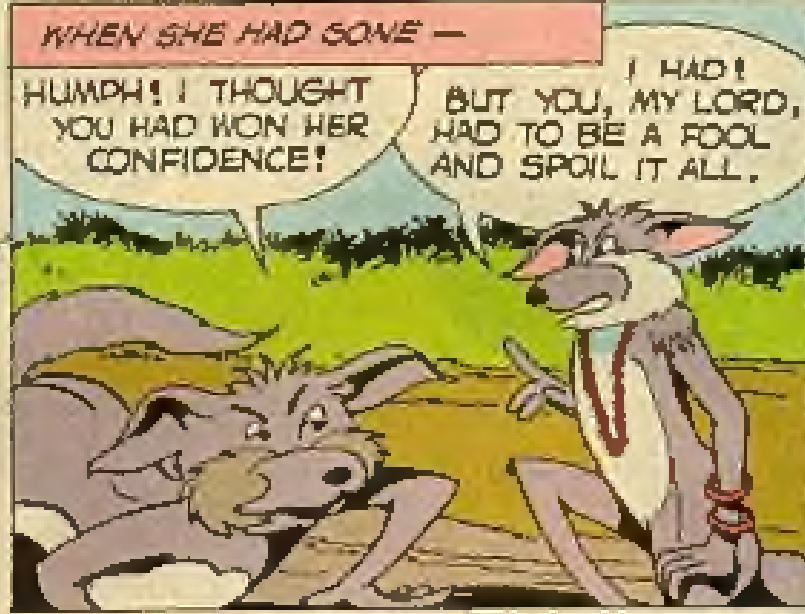
FRIEND, YOU WALK AHEAD  
AND SHOW ME THE WAY.  
I'LL FOLLOW.

A LITTLE LATER—

AH, FOOTSTEPS!  
HERE THEY  
COME.

HE FORGOT THAT HE WAS SUPPOSED TO PLAY  
DEAD, AND OPENED HIS EYES TO LOOK AT THE  
PLUMP GOAT.

HE'S  
ALIVE!



THE RUSE WORKED.

TWO THOUSAND DOGS! I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS GOAT.



DEAR FRIEND, I'VE CHANGED MY MIND. YOU'D BETTER NOT COME. YOUR CAVE MIGHT BE BURGLED WHILE YOU ARE AWAY.

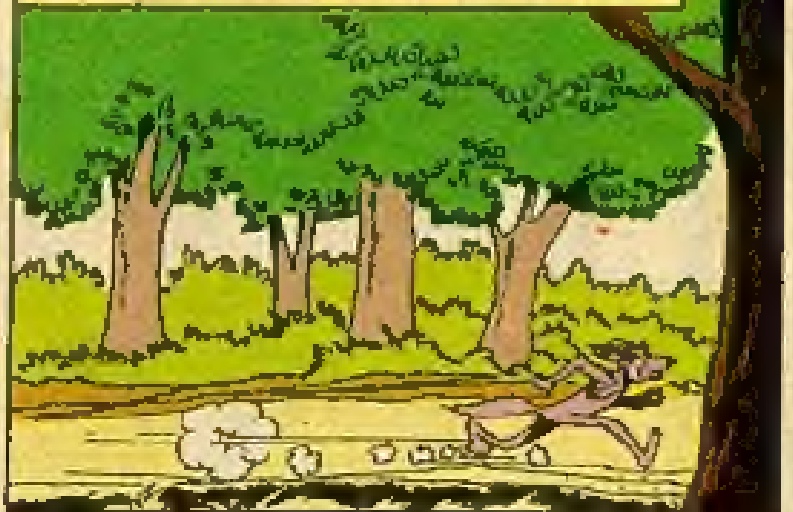
BUT I WANT TO COME AND....



NO! PLEASE DON'T BOTHER. SOME OTHER TIME, PERHAPS.



THEN SHE RAN FOR HER LIFE...



...TILL SHE REACHED HER MATE.

QUICK! WE MUST RUN, OR ELSE WE'LL MAKE A MEAL FOR TWO THOUSAND DOGS!

TWO THOUSAND DOGS!



THE JACKAL AND HIS MATE TOOK TO THEIR HEELS, AND THEY WERE NOT SEEN OR HEARD OF EVER AGAIN.

